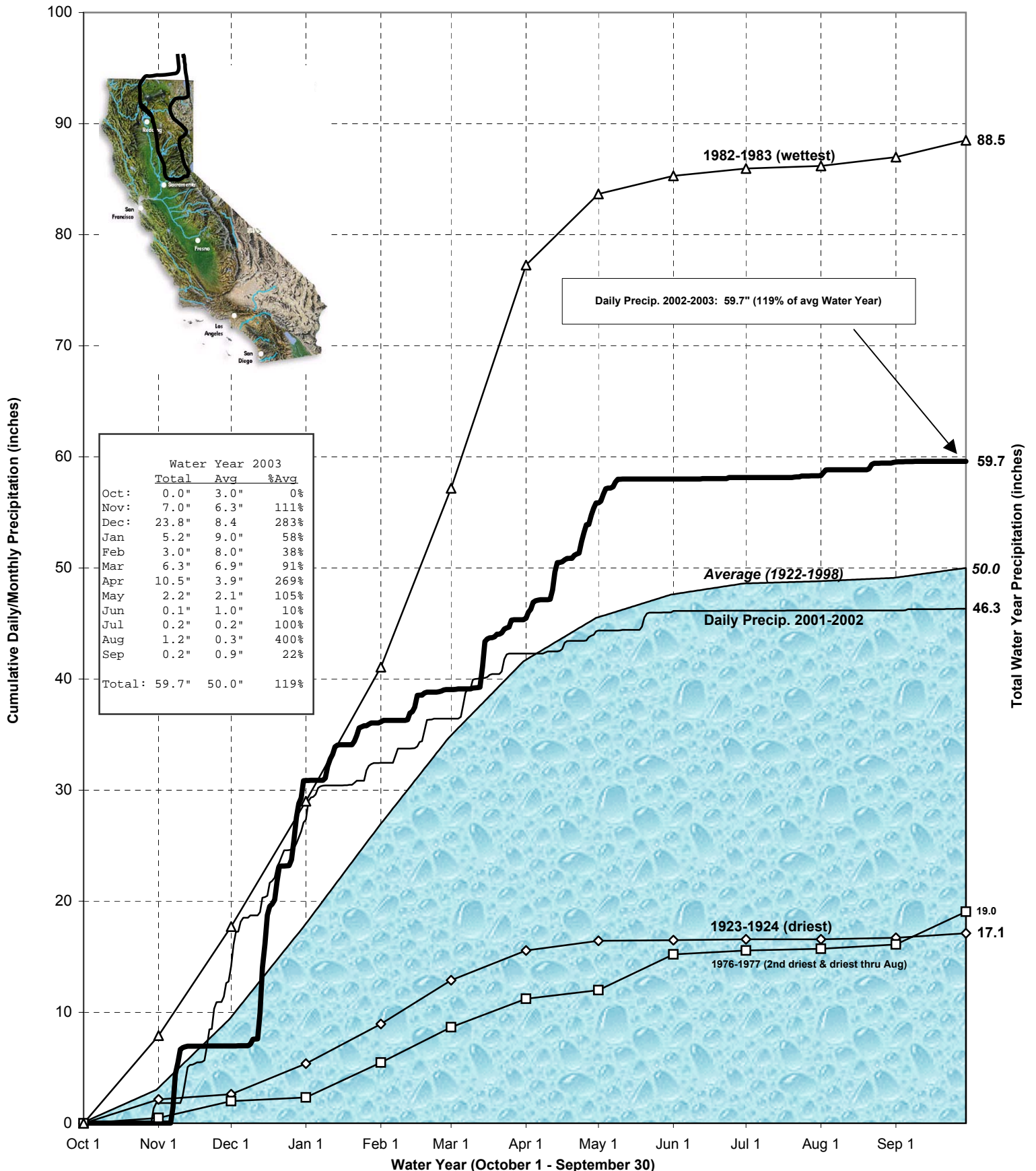


Northern Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index*

Water Year 2003



*The average of eight precipitation stations serves as a generalized wetness index for the Sacramento River hydrologic region. It provides a representative sample of the region's major watersheds: the upper Sacramento, Feather, Yuba, and American rivers, which produce inflow to some of California's largest reservoirs—the source of much of our water supply. The eight stations are: Blue Canyon, Brush Creek RS, Mineral, Mount Shasta City, Pacific House, Quincy RS, Shasta Dam, Sierraville RS. Official seasonal runoff forecasts are based on many more measurements than this index, including snowpack and prior streamflow. These seasonal forecasts are a much more accurate measure of water supply.